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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
PRODUCTION AND MARKETING ADMINISTRATION
INFORMATION BRANCH
30 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO 2, CALIFORNIA

In cooperation with the
Federal-State Market News Service

WHAT'S NEWS IN THE MARKETS?

(USDA Food Bulletin for the week ended June 3, 1949)

SAN FRANCISCO, May 31— Lettuce is still the outstanding buy in the wholesale vegetable market, followed by soft squash as the next Best Buy.

The line-up on Good Buys includes asparagus, carrots, onions, and peas.

Artichokes are a Fair Buy along with snap beans, celery, corn, cucumbers, and tomatoes (considerably lower priced).

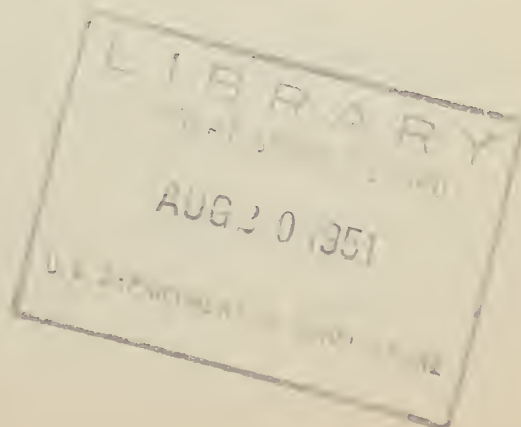
Although there are no so-called Best Buys in the wholesale fruit market this week, more kinds of fruits are beginning to make their appearance in the market.

Apricots are coming in in heavier supply. Early varieties of peaches are beginning to come in from Tulare county and the San Joaquin Valley. Early varieties of plums are also coming in. There are more raspberries in the markets at lower prices. A few Black Mission figs have come in from the Coachella Valley. Imperial Valley cantaloups are still high-priced, but supplies are getting heavier, and the quality is better than usual for this early in the season.

Fair Buys this week include: Strawberries, youngberries, boysenberries, and cherries.

Citrus fruits continue in the high-priced bracket.

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Despite higher prices, demand has been fairly good in the wholesale meat market during the past week. Top grades of fed beef were in more demand than were grass-fed quality beef carcasses, even though prices were higher on fed steer and heifer carcasses. Prices held unchanged on supplies of veal and calf that were generally ample for demand. Under a generally broad demand, spring lamb advanced \$1.00 to \$2.00 per hundredweight, while ewe mutton dropped \$1.00 to \$2.00. Higher prices on liveweight hogs were reflected in a price advance of \$1.00 per hundredweight on fresh pork carcasses, a \$4.00 per hundredweight price rise on pork loins, a \$2.00 price advance on fresh hams, and a \$1.00 to \$2.00 per hundredweight higher price on spareribs. Smoked hams and picnics also advanced \$2.00 per hundredweight.

There has been a slight fluctuation in butter prices in the San Francisco wholesale market during the past week. Grades A&A(1st Quality) are quoted 1/2-cent per pound higher to retailers at 66 to 68 cents per pound in cartons of 1/4-pound prints. Grade B(2nd Quality) butter has dropped 1-cent to a quotation of 62-1/2 to 63-1/2 cents per pound in cartons of 1/4-pound prints. Demand has been good for rather liberal supplies.

In the egg market, top-grade large eggs have continued in good demand at unchanged prices. Supplies of medium and small sizes have accumulated -- partly because of the Hawaiian waterfront strike. As a result, prices have dropped 3 cents on Grade "A" Small eggs to a quotation of 39 cents per dozen in cartons to retailers. Grade "A" Large are unchanged at 55 to 56 cents per dozen in cartons, as are Grade "A" Mediums at 51 to 52 cents per dozen in cartons.

Fairly heavy supplies of dressed poultry have been in moderately active demand. Prices have advanced 1-cent per pound on colored fryers, while colored hens in ample supply have dropped 1-cent per pound. As supplies of squabs and rabbits became burdensome, prices dropped 5 cents per pound on squabs and 3 to 4 cents per pound on rabbits.

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WHAT'S NEWS IN THE MARKETS?

(USDA Food Bulletin for the week ended June 10, 1949)

SAN FRANCISCO, June 7--- Youngberries are the Best Buy in the San Francisco wholesale fruit market this week. They are more plentiful and lower priced.

Fair Buys include strawberries and cherries in more varieties -- Bings, Lamberts, Tartarians.

Apricots, peaches and plums are gradually becoming more plentiful, as are cantaloups and watermelons at lower prices.

Loganberries, raspberries, and blackberries are still in light supply and expensive. Citrus fruits remain high-priced. And avocados have advanced in price.

The first new-crop White Astrachan apples have arrived from Butte county.

There are also a few Black Mission figs coming in from the Coachella Valley.

Best vegetable buys are cucumbers, lettuce, and soft squash (slightly higher).

Artichokes are more plentiful and a Good Buy, along with asparagus (lower), most bunched vegetables, carrots (lower), cabbage, and onions.

Corn and potatoes (slightly higher) are Fairly Good Buys.

Snap beans, celery and tomatoes (considerably lower) are the week's Fair Buys.

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Slaughter has been unable to keep up with demand on beef, lamb and pork cuts in the San Francisco wholesale market. The beef market has been characterized by higher costs for fed beef and heavier supplies of grass-fed carcasses. For the most part, prices on beef have held unchanged, although in some instances they were upped \$1.00 per hundredweight. Fresh veal and calf have been in good demand at unchanged prices. Spring lamb has been in broad demand and has advanced \$1.00 per hundredweight, while ewe mutton has held unchanged. Under a fair demand, pork carcasses have held unchanged in price. But pork loins have been scarce and have advanced \$4.00 per hundredweight. Fresh picnics are up \$3.00 per hundredweight from a week ago; butts are \$2.00 to \$4.00 higher; and spareribs are selling \$1.00 per hundredweight higher. Smoked hams and picnics have also advanced \$1.00 to \$2.00.

Butter prices have sagged 1/2-cent to 1-cent since last week, while production and retail sales have been on the increase. For the week ended June 2, butter production in the Mountain and Pacific Coast states gained 4 percent over the previous week. San Francisco's retail sales for the week ended May 28 were 10.78 percent larger than for the previous week, and were 23.57 percent above the same week last year. Grades A&AA(1st Quality) butter are quoted to retailers 1/2-cent lower at 65½ to 67½ cents per pound in cartons of 1/4-lb. prints. Grade B(2nd Quality) is quoted 1-cent lower at 61½ to 62½ cents per pound in cartons of 1/4-lb. prints.

Egg prices are unchanged from a week ago. In cartons to retailers, Grade "A" Large are quoted at 55 to 56 cents per dozen, Mediums at 51 to 52 cents, and Smalls at 39 cents. Production is on the decline. As a result, supplies of top-quality eggs are becoming lighter and small sizes are becoming more plentiful.

Dressed poultry is very little changed in price from last week. Although supplies of fryers and roasters have been about equal to demand, prices on colored roasters have advanced 2 cents per pound. Broilers are more plentiful at unchanged prices. And there's no change on either Leghorn or colored hens. Demand has been very light for rabbits and squabs. As a result, rabbits have dropped 1 to 2 cents per pound.

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WHAT'S NEWS IN THE MARKETS?

(USDA Food Bulletin for the week ended June 17, 1949)

SAN FRANCISCO, June 14--- Supplies of summer fruits and vegetables continue to become more plentiful and prices continue to drop in the San Francisco wholesale fruit and vegetable market. Although there are no so-called Best Buys in fruits this week, cantaloups have dropped in price and have become plentiful enough to be classed as a Fairly Good Buy along with youngberries and cherries.

Fair Buys of the week include: Apricots (mostly Royals), loganberries, and Beauty plums.

The first nectarines of the season have arrived, as well as a few honeydew and honeyball melons. Figs and watermelons are lower priced this week. And early varieties of peaches continue to arrive in the market.

All citrus fruits and avocados remain in the expensive-priced group.

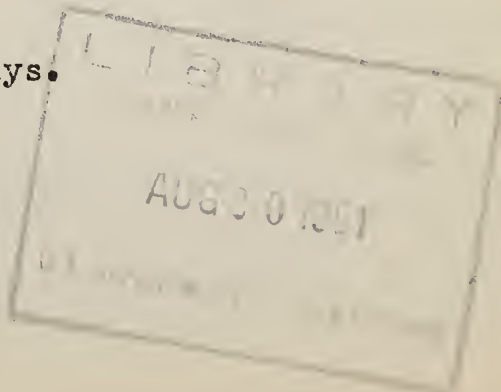
Lettuce and cucumbers still top the list of Best Buys among the vegetables.

There are numerous Good Buys this week, including artichokes, bunched vegetables, carrots (lower), cabbage (lower), celery (lower), corn (lower), onions, potatoes, and tomatoes (lower).

Prices have advanced slightly on soft squash to make it a Fairly Good Buy, as are peas.

Asparagus (lower) and green beans are Fair Buys.

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Demand has ranged from fair to good in the San Francisco wholesale meat market this past week. The supply of beef has been about equally divided between fed beef and grass carcasses, with demand sufficient to pretty well clear all offerings. Commercial grade carcasses were more prominent in the supply and advanced \$3.00 per hundredweight, while Good grade steer beef went up \$1.00 per hundredweight. Utility grade beef also gained \$1.00 to \$3.00 per hundredweight. And most beef cuts have advanced \$1.00 to \$2.00 per hundredweight since last week. Lighter offerings of veal and calf have been in good demand at unchanged prices. Good and Choice grades of spring lamb have held unchanged in price, while more plentiful supplies of Commercial grade have gone up \$1.00 to \$2.00 per hundredweight. As the result of warmer weather, fresh pork carcasses and cuts have been in only fair demand at practically unchanged prices.

Butter prices are unchanged from a week ago. Grades A&AA(1st Quality) are still quoted to retailers at $65\frac{1}{2}$ to $67\frac{1}{2}$ cents per pound in cartons of 1/4-lb. prints and Grade B(2nd Quality) remains at $61\frac{1}{2}$ to $62\frac{1}{2}$ cents per pound. Demand has continued good for top quality butter, but there has been very little demand for lower grades. Although production for the week ended June 9 was the same as for the previous week in the Pacific Coast and Mountain states, it was 21 percent larger than during the corresponding week last year.

Egg prices are little changed from last week. Grade "A" Large have advanced 1-cent per dozen to a quotation of 56 to 57 cents per dozen in cartons to retailers. All other grades and sizes have held unchanged, with Grade "A" Mediums quoted to retailers at 51 to 52 cents per dozen in cartons, and Grade "A" Smalls at 39 cents per dozen in cartons. As the result of warm weather and a continued decline in production, there have been fewer top-quality eggs available. Demand has continued fairly good.

In the San Francisco wholesale poultry market, supplies of colored fryers have been light. As a result, prices have advanced 3 to 4 cents per pound on dressed colored fryers. Both Leghorn and Colored hens have been more plentiful. Prices have held unchanged on Leghorn hens but have dropped 5 cents per pound on dressed colored hens. Squabs and rabbits have been in slow demand but have held unchanged in price, as have all other classes.

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WHAT'S NEWS IN THE MARKETS?

(USDA Food Bulletin for the week ended June 24, 1949)

SAN FRANCISCO, June 21--- The berries are on top! Boysenberries, youngberries and loganberries are the week's Best Buys in fruits.

Apricots are a Fairly Good Buy along with cantaloups of unusually good quality, honeyball melons, and figs at lower prices.

Fair Buys include: Cherries (higher), currants, plums, raspberries (lower), and watermelons.

More varieties of peaches are appearing in the market.

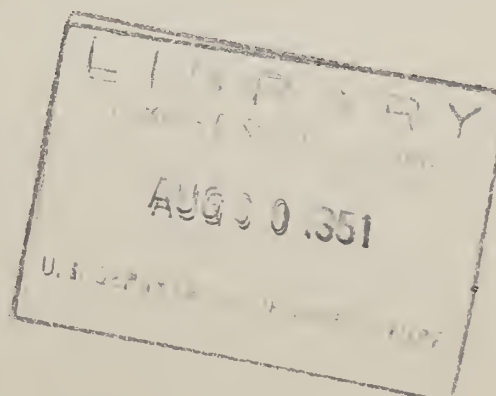
Citrus fruits and avocados remain in the high-priced bracket.

In the vegetable division, carrots, corn (lower), lettuce, and tomatoes top the list of Best Buys.

Cabbage, celery, cucumbers, onions, and new potatoes are Good Buys.

Soft squash is a Fairly Good Buy, while artichokes, asparagus, snap beans, and peas are a Fair Buy.

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Plentiful supplies, fewer top grades of livestock, and declining prices have featured the San Francisco wholesale meat market during the past week. In some sections of the west cattle marketings were the largest since mid-December of last year. In San Francisco, receipts of sheep and lambs were the largest since last August. Supplies of Good grain-fed steers and Choice grade spring lambs were rather light. The beef supply consisted of liberal offerings of grassy heifers and range cows. All meats were in less demand. Prices advanced \$1.00 per hundredweight on Good steer carcasses and Good and Choice spring lamb carcasses. Veal and calf dropped \$2.00 per hundredweight; ewe mutton dropped \$4.00 to \$6.00 per hundredweight; and pork loins ranged from \$2.00 to \$4.00 per hundredweight lower.

Butter prices have sagged 1 to 2 cents in the San Francisco wholesale market. Demand has been rather slow for liberal supplies of all grades. Although production in the Pacific Coast and Mountain states showed a 3-percent decline for the week ended June 16, it was 22 percent above the corresponding week last year. Grades A&AA(1st Quality) are quoted to retailers 1 to 2 cents below last week at $64\frac{1}{2}$ to $65\frac{1}{2}$ cents per pound in cartons of 1/4-lb. prints. Grade B(2nd Quality) butter is quoted to retailers 1/2-cent lower at 61 to 62 cents per pound in cartons of 1/4-lb. prints.

Egg prices have advanced under the influence of lighter supplies, warm weather, and a continued strong demand. Grade "A" Large eggs are quoted 1-cent higher to retailers at 57 to 58 cents per dozen, as are Grade "A" Mediums at 52 to 53 cents per dozen. Grade "A" Smalls are unchanged at 39 cents per dozen.

In the wholesale poultry market, lighter supplies of young chickens and a good demand have resulted in a price hike of 2 cents per pound on dressed broilers and 1 to 2 cents per pound on dressed colored fryers and roasters. Larger supplies of Loughorn hens have dropped 2 cents per pound. Old roosters have dropped 1-cent per pound. Spring turkeys are coming to market from the San Joaquin Valley, with the result that young hen turkeys are down 2 cents per pound from last week.

